



The top crowd-funding sites:

- Crowdrise (www.crowdrise.com): Provides a public source for charity fundraising
 - Grow VC (www.growvc.com): An international outfit that aims to connect profit-minded investors with entrepreneurs
 - Indiegogo (www.indiegogo.com): A preferred choice for filmmakers, musicians and artists
 - Kickstarter (www.kickstarter.com): The largest crowd-funding site, a haven for general-interest projects
 - Microryza (www.microryza.com): Allows anyone interested to fund scientific research
 - Peerbackers (www.peerbackers.com): Takes a business-oriented approach, catering to entrepreneurs and start-ups
 - RocketHub (www.rockethub.com): Offers exclusive real-world opportunities – e.g., gallery showings and musical showcases.
- From *The Costco Connection*, November 2012

studio. Refined Teaching (Oct. 20-24) is the final course offered for those who have completed the first course and for teachers with some experience. Each session is \$1,500. Summer workshop dates include Telluride, Colo. June 14-15; Basalt, Colo. June 21-22; and Jackson, Wyo. Aug. 22-24. Call 406-261-6528, email shawnamooreart@hotmail.com or visit www.shawnamoore.com for details.

The Hockaday Museum of Art in Kalispell offers Crits and Croissants: A Saturday Morning Artists’ Critique with Thomas G. Lewis, 10:30 a.m. May 10; and Hand Building with Clay with Sherry Wells, Saturdays June 14-28 and July 12 (for ages 15+). Numerous pre-school, home school, and after-school classes for students ages 7-14 are also available. The Summer Art Camp for kids age 7-14 runs June 24-27. Visit www.hockadaymuseum.org or call 406-755-5268 for details.

The Red Lodge Clay Center offers adult clay classes Wednesday mornings through June 4; advanced adult clay classes Mondays through June 16; a Kids Clay Camp, June 23-26; and an Adult Clay Camp July 14-18. Call 406-446-3993, email programs@redlodgeclaycenter.com or visit www.redlodgeclaycenter.com for details.

The Rich’s Montana Guest Ranch and Alpine Artisans in Seeley Lake offer two painting workshops at first annual “Painting for a Dream” collaboration: Dream 1: Plein Air Oils with Tricia Bass, May 22-23 (\$200); and Dream 2: Watercolor with Karen Leigh, May 24-25 (\$200). Lodging and meals extra. Call 406-677-2317 or visit www.alpineartisans.org or www.richranch.com for details. DEADLINE: \$20 discount offered till May 1.

Two Rivers Gallery in Big Timber offers a five-day creative watercolor workshop with Sarah Peterson, May 19-23. Call 406-932-5532 or email donna@tworiversgallery.org for information.

Zootown Arts Community Center in Missoula offers “Seeing Through My Eyes,” a plaster gauze mask-making class with Kendall Rogers, May 18 and 25 (\$45). A printshop orientation is the first Thursday of every month. Poetry Night is held 8-9 p.m. every third Tuesday, and a fiction-writing workshop is held 7-9 p.m. every other Wednesday. Call 406-549-7555 or visit www.zootownarts.org.

Montana Watercolor Society offers “Elevate Your Watercolor Expertise” with Diana Brady, June 21-22 at the Lewistown Art Center. DEADLINE: June 1, 2014. MTWS also offers “Play, Incubate, Make It Your Own,” a workshop with Jean Pederson, Oct. 2-5 (\$475 non-members; \$400 members). Call 406-549-2072, email mtwsvoermans2@yahoo.com or visit www.montanawatercolorssociety.org for registration and scholarship details.

The Missoula Art Museum offers Paper Marbling with Shelly Reisig and Martha Elizabeth, May 10 (\$18-\$20); and Personality Hats with Nancy Rishoff, June 28 (\$13.50-\$15). Call 406-728-0447 or visit www.missoulaartmuseum.org for details.

The International Traditional Games Society will lead a three-day certification clinic at Glacier Park Lodge in East Glacier Park, June 30-July 2. In the Level I clinic, students will learn games of intuition and physical skill, including the historical significance of the games and how to craft the game pieces; in Level II, students will craft additional game pieces; and in Level III, students will assist with teaching and be provided with a mentor for self-analysis of Native games knowledge (\$250). Contact games@traditionalnativegames.org or visit www.traditionalnativegames.org for details.

The Archie Bray Foundation in Helena offers “Altered and Ornamented” with Kristen Kieffer, May 23-25 (\$335); “This is a Stick Up! Decal Making from Start to Finish” with Ayumi Horie and Andy Brayman, June 9-20 (\$795); and “China Paint: Form and Illusion” with Kurt Weiser, July 14-18 (\$495). Visit www.archiebray.org, email archiebray@archiebray.org or call 406-443-3502.

The Blackwood Friedland Studio’s “Master Painting Workshops 2014 Series” features Marc Hanson’s five-day “Capturing Nature’s Essence” in oil, acrylic or pastel plein air landscape workshop in Bozeman Aug. 6-10 (\$575). Call 406-586-4484 or email sbblackwood@mcn.net to register. Visit www.howardfriedland.com or www.susanblackwood.com.

The Stumptown Art Studio in Whitefish offers “Simple Pendant,” a precious metal clay workshop with Kris Kramer, May 5; “Springy Trees,” a mixed media art day with Brooke Nelson, May 12; “Intro to Glass Fusing” with Melanie Drown, May 14. Clayground Time with Stephanie Seguin, and Mosaic-Making Workshops with Deb Stika can be scheduled. Wild Women Wednesday is May 21, The Cultural and Art History Club meets the second Tuesday of each month, and Canvas and Cocktails are 6:30-9:30 p.m. on the final Friday of each month. Call 406-862-5929 or visit www.stumptownartstudio.org for details.

Richard Notkin and Jason Walker conduct a two-week workshop, “Ceramic Imagery: Relief Carving and Surface Illustration,” at La Meridiana International School of Ceramics in Tuscany, Italy, July 13-26. The focus is narrative imagery in clay, and visual poetry in clay is the goal. A day tour of Florence is included. Visit www.lameridiana.fi.it.

The Holter Museum of Art in Helena offers “Corks and Canvas” 6:30-8:30 p.m. May 2 (\$35-\$40). Call 406-442-6400, email info@holtermuseum.org or visit www.holtermuseum.org for details.

The Clay Studio of Missoula offers “Form and Surface: Creating Unique Utilitarian Work” with Sarah Jaeger, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 2 (\$85-\$95). Call 406-543-0509 or email info@theclaystudioofmissoula.org to register. Visit www.theclaystudioofmissoula.org for details.

The Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings offers “Appalachian Egg Baskets” with Marsha Hill, May 17 (\$55). Call 406-256-6804, email lindas5252@yahoo.com or visit www.artmuseum.org for details.

The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls offers Drawing for Seniors (60+ adults) with Dan Price, Tuesdays; Tai Chi classes; and Pottery Open Studio. Call 406-727-8255 or visit www.the-square.org for details.

The National Center for Creative Aging (NCCA) offers free online training (12-15 hours) on how to lead lifelong-learning programs in the arts. The self-guided program topics include the aging process, the creative potential of older adults, and how to identify community partners in aging, arts and health-related services. It provides guidance on how to plan, implement and evaluate arts programming for older populations. Visit www.creativeaging.org.

Grants/Fellowships

First Peoples Fund announces its 2014 Cultural Capital Program to aid artists in developing local networks for leveraging other resources and will provide technical assistance and capacity-building support, as needed for the master artist/teacher. The program is designed to support previous year Community Spirit Award recipients, allowing them to commit more time in teaching and sharing ancestral knowledge and practices. Grant amount is \$5,000. Call 605-348-0324, email miranne@firstpeoplesfund.org or visit www.firstpeoplesfund.org for details. DEADLINE: Sept. 1, 2014.

The Gilder Lehrman Fellowships are open to doctoral candidates, postdoctoral scholars, college and university faculty, and independent scholars working in American history. For details, call 646-366-9666 ext. 29 or email fellowships@gilderlehrman.org. DEADLINE: May 1, 2014.

The Historical Museum at Fort Missoula is accepting applications for the annual Preserving Missoula County History Grant program. The program is open to all Missoula County non-profit organizations involved in historic preservation and interpretation projects in Missoula County. Contact Dr. Robert M. Brown at 406-728-3476 or email ftmslamuseum@montana.com for details. DEADLINE: June 15, 2014.

The Institute of Museums and Libraries (IMLS) offers the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant that supports projects to recruit and educate the next generation of librarians, faculty and library leaders; and to support early career research. It also assists in the professional development of librarians and library staff. Contact Mary Alice Ball at 202-653-4730 or email mball@imls.gov for information. DEADLINE: September 16, 2014. The IMLS also seeks nominations for recipients of the National Medal for Museum and Library Service. Contact Katherine Maas at 202-653-4798 or email kmaas@imls.gov for information. DEADLINE: October 15, 2014. Visit www.imls.gov/applicants.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access offers Preservation Assistance Grants for projects that begin January 2015. Grants help small and mid-sized institutions improve their ability to preserve and care for their humanities collections. DEADLINE: May 1, 2014. Also, the Humanities Collections and Reference Resources program supports projects that provide an essential underpinning for scholarship, education, and public programming in the humanities. Funding from this program strengthens efforts to extend the life of important collections of books and manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings and moving images, archeological and ethnographic artifacts, art and material culture, and digital objects. DEADLINE: July 17, 2014. Call 202-606-8570, email preservation@neh.gov, or visit www.neh.gov/grants for details.

The National Endowment for the Humanities

Division of Research offers fellowship support to individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Projects may be at any stage of development. DEADLINE: May 1, 2014. Grants for Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions support fellowships at institutions devoted to advanced study and research in the humanities. DEADLINE: Aug. 14, 2014. Call 202-606-8200 or visit www.neh.gov/grants/research/.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Education Programs offers Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities to strengthen and enrich humanities education and scholarship at tribal colleges and universities. Call 202-606-8471 or email hi@neh.gov for details. DEADLINE: June 26, 2014. Bridging Cultures at Community Colleges provides grants to strengthen and enrich humanities education and scholarship at community colleges or community college systems. Call 202-606-8380 or email bccc@neh.gov for details. DEADLINE: Aug. 21, 2014. Visit www.neh.gov/grants/education/.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Public Programs offers the Digital Projects for the Public program that supports projects such as websites, mobile applications, games, and virtual environments that significantly contribute to the public’s engagement with humanities ideas. DEADLINE: June 11, 2014. Media Project Development Grants and Production Grants support interactive digital media, film and television projects and radio projects that engage the public in the exploration of humanities ideas. DEADLINE: August 13, 2014. The Museums, Libraries, and Cultural Organization Planning Grants and Implementation Grants provide support to organizations that produce public programs in the humanities. DEADLINE: August 13, 2014. Call 202-606-8269, email publicpgms@neh.gov or visit www.neh.gov/grants/public for details.

The National Endowment for the Arts announces application guidelines are now available for fiscal year 2015 funding programs including Art Works and Challenge America Fast-Track. Art Works supports the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, and promotes public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and the strengthening of communities through the arts. DEADLINE: July 24, 2014. Challenge America Fast-Track supports small and mid-sized organizations that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations. DEADLINE: May 8, 2014. Visit www.arts.gov.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Start-up Grants program supports the planning stages of innovative projects beginning May 2015 that promise to benefit the humanities. Email odh@neh.gov or visit www.neh.gov for details. DEADLINE: Sept. 11, 2014.

The National Endowment for the Humanities offers Summer Stipends for projects beginning May 2015 that support individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Summer Stipends support continuous full-time work on a humanities project for a period of two months. Call 202-606-8200, email stipends@neh.gov or visit www.neh.gov/grants/research/summer_stipends for details. DEADLINE: Sept. 30, 2014.

Humanities Montana offers three specific opportunities in 2014: Speakers in the Schools and Speaker Bureau programs that focus on Montana 1864-1889; grants to help underwrite exhibits, conferences, book festivals, historical reenactments, and other events focused on Montana’s 150th anniversary; and Montana’s Reflect program and Gracious Space facilitators which assist Montana communities in discussing challenges such as the impact of energy development, bridging cultures, or cooperating on community projects. The next regular and major grant application deadlines are May 20 and Aug. 20, 2014. Visit www.humanitiesmontana.org or call 406-243-6022 for details.

The Cultural Exchange Fund, an initiative of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters, is a travel subsidy program that assists U.S.-based presenters in building partnerships with international touring artists, companies and their collaborators. In promoting cross-cultural arts programming, travel to the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and Africa is strongly encouraged. The maximum amount awarded per individual organization or artist is \$2,000. Group travel subsidies of three or more presenters are also available, with a maximum award of \$10,000. All applicants must be members of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters. Applications must be submitted online through the Association of Performing Arts Presenters website: www.apap365.org. DEADLINE: Aug. 14, 2014.